

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A shaped blank comprising:

a body having a knitted section with a plurality of yarns disposed in a knitted direction, said body having an opening in said knitted section; and

a fringe being between said knitted section and said opening, said fringe being defined by each yarn of said plurality of yarns extending into said opening a predetermined distance along said knitted direction, said predetermined distance being less than about two centimeters, wherein said knitted section terminates at a knit stitch.

2. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 1, wherein said predetermined distance is greater than or equal to about one half centimeter.

3. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 1, wherein said predetermined distance is about one centimeter to about one half centimeter.

4. (Original) A shaped blank comprising:

a body having a knitted section with a plurality of yarns disposed in a knitted direction, said body having an aperture in said knitted section and each yarn of said plurality of yarns extending a length along said knitted direction into said

aperture, said plurality of yarns having a first yarn with a maximum length relative to said length, said plurality of yarns having a second yarn with a minimum length, wherein said maximum length and said minimum length form a ratio defined by said maximum length divided by said minimum length, and wherein said ratio is in a range that includes about 4.0 to about 1.0.

5. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 4, wherein said maximum length is about two centimeters.

6. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 4, wherein said minimum length is about one half centimeter.

7. (Currently amended) ~~The shaped blank of claim 4,~~ A shaped blank comprising:

a body having a knitted section with a plurality of yarns disposed in a knitted direction, said body having an aperture in said knitted section and each yarn of said plurality of yarns extending a length along said knitted direction into said aperture, said plurality of yarns having a first yarn with a maximum length relative to said length, said plurality of yarns having a second yarn with a minimum length, wherein said maximum length and said minimum length form a ratio defined by said maximum length divided by said minimum length, and wherein said ratio is in a range that includes about 4.0 to about 1.0, wherein said aperture has a first side portion and a second side portion each on a circumference of said aperture, said first side portion being opposite said second side portion, said plurality of yarns extending in said knitted direction on said first side portion and said plurality of yarns extending opposite said knitted direction on said second side portion, wherein said plurality of said yarns on said first side portion

have a different length relative to said plurality of yarns on said second side portion.

8. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 7, wherein said plurality of yarns on said second side portion are about one half centimeter in length.

9. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 7, wherein said plurality of yarns on said second side portion are tensioned.

10. (Currently amended) A shaped blank comprising:

a body having a knitted section with a plurality of yarns disposed in a knitted direction, said knitted section being formed with a first line of demarcation, said body having an opening in said knitted section, said opening commencing at said first line of demarcation, wherein the shaped blank has a plurality of yarns, each yarn of said plurality of yarns having a length, said plurality of yarns forming a fringe between said knitted section and said opening, and wherein said length of each of said plurality of yarns is substantially uniform with regard to a remainder of said plurality of yarns so that said fringe does not necessitate any trimming.

11. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 10, wherein said plurality of yarns have a maximum length and a minimum length at said fringe, and wherein said length is between said maximum length and said minimum length.

12. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 1, wherein said plurality of yarns are made of a material selected from the group consisting of elasthane, a nylon, a polyester, a cotton,

an elastomeric yarn, a spandex, wool, silk, linen, and any combinations thereof.

13. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 10, wherein said substantially uniform length is about two centimeters to about one half centimeter.

14. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 10, wherein said length of said plurality of yarns at said fringe depends on a material forming said plurality of yarns, said material being selected from the group consisting of elasthane, a nylon, a polyester, a cotton, an elastomeric yarn, a spandex, wool, silk, linen, and any combinations thereof.

15. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 10, wherein said opening is in a first lateral side of the shaped blank and a second opening is in a second lateral side of the shaped blank.

16. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 10, wherein said knitted section and said opening are both circular knit at a speed of operation of about 100 revolutions per minute.

17. (Currently amended) ~~The shaped blank of claim 10,~~ A shaped blank comprising:

a body having a knitted section with a plurality of yarns disposed in a knitted direction, said knitted section being formed with a first line of demarcation, said body having an opening in said knitted section, said opening commencing at said first line of demarcation, wherein the shaped blank has a plurality of yarns, each yarn of said plurality of yarns having a length, said plurality of yarns forming a fringe between said knitted section and said opening, and wherein said length of

each of said plurality of yarns is substantially uniform with regard to a remainder of said plurality of yarns, wherein said opening has a first lateral side and a second lateral side, said first lateral side being at a first radial position of said opening and said second lateral side being opposite said first lateral side at a second radial position, wherein said plurality of yarns are tensioned at said second lateral side.

18. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 10, wherein the shaped blank forms a garment selected from the group consisting of a panty, a pair of shorts, a brassiere, a shirt, a sock, hosiery, a head covering, and any combinations thereof.

19. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 18, wherein said opening forms a feature of said garment, said feature being selected from the group consisting of a neck opening, a waist opening, an arm opening, a leg opening, and any combinations thereof.

20. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 10, wherein said plurality of yarns each have a base portion, said base portion being integral with a knitted stitch of said knitted section.

21. (Original) The shaped blank of claim 10, further comprising an amount of a material forming said knitted section, wherein said amount is about a thirty percent below a total amount of material forming a blank without said opening.